

# On election of new Prime Minister FECCA calls for respect in immigration debate

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) said today that the election of a new Prime Minister should not be used as a catalyst for changes to Australia's long-standing non-discriminatory, fair and welcoming immigration policies.

The Chairperson of FECCA, Mary Patetsos, said that for decades, Australia's political leaders from both sides had committed themselves to a multicultural Australia and the social and economic benefits it has delivered to the nation.

"While we congratulate the new Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, on his elevation and look forward to working constructively with his Government on matters relating to Australians of culturally and linguistically diverse background, we urge the new Prime Minister to reaffirm the nation's commitment to respectful debate," Ms Patetsos said.

"FECCA and the communities it represents have been alarmed and disappointed by the extreme views expressed by public figures recently around immigration matters generally, and certain migrant groups in particular.

"It is the duty of the nation's leaders to ensure that public discussion around immigration and multiculturalism is conducted in a respectful manner and that Australia remains a shining example of a successful multicultural society."

FECCA is the national peak body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Our role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of our constituency to government, business and the broader community.

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